

Introduced by Senator SteinbergFebruary 22, 2008

An act to amend Section 51121 of the Education Code, relating to the Nell Soto Parent/Teacher Involvement Program.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1715, as introduced, Steinberg. The Nell Soto Parent/Teacher Involvement Program.

Existing law establishes the Nell Soto Parent/Teacher Involvement Program to provide grant awards to schools in which a majority of teachers and parents agree to strengthen the communication between schools and parents as a means of improving pupil academic achievement, as specified.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 51121 of the Education Code is amended
- 2 to read:
- 3 51121. (a) The Nell Soto Parent/Teacher Involvement Program
- 4 is hereby established ~~for the purpose of providing~~ *to provide* grant
- 5 awards to schools in which a majority of teachers and parents agree
- 6 to strengthen the communication between schools and parents as
- 7 a means of improving pupil academic achievement.
- 8 (b) ~~Any~~ A school district or charter school that maintains
- 9 kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, the California

1 School for the Deaf, or the California School for the Blind may
2 operate a parent/teacher involvement program at ~~any~~ *a* schoolsite
3 that meets each of the requirements set forth in subdivision (c).

4 (c) The program shall include all of the following elements:

5 (1) At least 50 percent of the teachers employed at the schoolsite
6 voluntarily agree to participate in either periodic visits to the homes
7 of their pupils or in community meetings that are held at times and
8 locations that are convenient to parents.

9 (2) At least 50 percent of the parents or guardians of pupils
10 enrolled at the schoolsite have voluntarily signed a
11 parent/teacher/pupil compact in which parents agree to participate
12 in periodic home visits or community meetings. The compact *also*
13 shall ~~also~~ encompass the elements of the parent involvement policy
14 adopted by the State Board of Education on September 9, 1994.

15 (3) A teacher or teaching paraprofessional who participates in
16 the program shall receive training in strategies for communicating
17 effectively with parents and in conducting periodic home visits or
18 community meetings. These strategies may include providing
19 parents with guidance in how to reinforce educational objectives
20 with their children at home.

21 (4) Teachers and teaching paraprofessionals shall be
22 compensated for their participation in home visits or community
23 meetings at an hourly rate comparable to their regular base salary.

24 (5) A certification that participating teachers or participating
25 teachers paired with teaching paraprofessionals will conduct home
26 visits to a substantial percentage of the enrolled pupils whose
27 parents or guardians have voluntarily signed a parent/teacher/pupil
28 compact at least once annually or that, in the case of high schools
29 or middle schools that participate in the program, will hold at least
30 monthly community-based meetings at various sites located
31 throughout the attendance area of the high school or middle school.

32 (d) For purposes of this article, “teaching paraprofessional” has
33 the same meaning as *is given to “school paraprofessional”* in
34 Section 44392.

35 (e) For purposes of this section, “community meetings” are
36 periodic public meetings held by participating schools for the
37 purpose of strengthening communication between the schools and
38 parents for the improvement of pupil academic achievement.

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